



DATE: Oct. 3, 2018

ATTENDANCE
Board members – Katie Fillion, Alastair McCollum, Allison Ashcroft, Jenny Farkas
Individual and business members: Jennie Greven, Jessy Rucker, Jordan Steinbrenner, Lorna Renie, Katie Swanson, Dawn Goodwin, Brendan Nielson
Non-resident members: Elizabeth Monk
City liaisons/ reps – Mike Hill
Guests – Sarah Webb and Tim Hewett, City of Victoria
OPENING REMARKS – Acting President Jenny Farkas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial acknowledgement • Acknowledgement of board members who left mid-term: Chris Fleming, Pam Hartling, Daniel Ferguson and Helene Baudvin. Four current Board members are running for re-election. • Welcome to attendees and thank you to Rev. Alastair McCollum for the use of meeting space at St. John the Divine Anglican Church. • Anyone who is a North Park resident, property owner or business/non-profit organization can vote at the AGM. • All documents and minutes are available at npna.ca.
PRESENTATION – Sarah Webb and Tim Hewett, City of Victoria
<p>Vancouver Corridor Traffic Calming & AAA Cycling Project</p> <p>The objective of this project is safer city streets for pedestrians and cyclists. The City of Victoria target for 2041 is to have 60% of all trips to, from and within Victoria by transit, walking or cycling. Shifting the mode share so that more people cycle and walk has environmental and safety benefits.</p> <p>The Vancouver Street project – from Bay Street to Park Boulevard near Beacon Hill Park - will be the eastern leg of the central cycling network. Engagement will take place during 2018-2019, with construction targeted to begin in summer/fall 2019.</p> <p>Vancouver Street will primarily be converted to neighbourhood bikeways, where cyclists share the road with vehicles. Separated bike lanes on both sides of the street will be constructed closer to the downtown core, south of Balmoral Street. The project will connect with the Graham/Fifth Street Corridor project in 2019/2020.</p> <p>Traffic calming, paint markings and intersection improvements will take place, with some landscaping. Connections to North Park Village will be enhanced, but improvements on connector streets are out of scope. Additional bike parking and benches will be considered for North Park destinations such as George Jay Elementary, Royal Athletic Park and the village. Parking will be retained as much as possible.</p>

Designs will be brought back to the NPNA for feedback in November. Feedback on the project is encouraged.

What is the posted speed for this kind of project?

30 km/h. The design will enhance speed management.

Is there an opportunity to enhance street trees?

There are no plans to remove trees, and the City will consider where additional trees could be planted or enhanced. The Parks Department will be involved.

Additional comments

- It would be ideal to synch the Local Area Plan and the Central Park Planning Process in conjunction with this project.
- Parking could be more efficient if the City considered putting motorcycle stalls where there isn't enough space for full vehicle spaces. (This is being done on the Wharf St Corridor.)
- The City will be repaving between Pandora and Caledonia in conjunction with this project.

More info: Victoria.ca/cycling

AGENDA APPROVAL

Oct. 3, 2018

Amendments:

1. Old Business – Crystal Pool update

Motion to approve:

(first) Alastair

(second) Katie

BYLAW AMENDMENTS – Acting President Jenny Farkas

View NPNA Bylaw Amendments (Oct. 3, 2018) and NPNA Code of Conduct (draft Oct. 3, 2018) (available at npna.ca/about/docs)

- There are a number of proposed Bylaw Amendments, designed to clarify processes and the language of NPNA Bylaws. The proposed amendments were circulated.
- A draft Code of Conduct has also been created to ensure respectful and collaborative interactions amongst NPNA board members and volunteers. The proposed Code of Conduct was circulated.
- Discussion of 3.1 new membership amendments. Suggest requirement for members to have attended 6 out of 12 meetings prior to joining Board.
- 3.4.1 Serves as a temporary measure between AGMs. Request to reconsider specific wording of this item.

Motion to approve NPNA bylaws with minor amendments and new Code of Conduct:

(first) Allison

(second) Katie

ELECTIONS – Penny Bond

Because the acting President was running for re-election, the election was presided over by Penny Bond, past board member.

At its AGM, NPNA may elect up to 12 board members. Of those elected, 25% may be non-resident/non-business owners in North Park. The elections are for two-year terms.

In 2018, four incumbents are running for re-election:

- Allison Ashcroft (non-resident)
- Jenny Farkas
- Katie Fillion
- Alastair McCollum

Two members are running for election:

- Mel Groves, Communications Officer, nominated by Jenny Farkas/Katie Fillion; has accepted nomination
- Sean Kahil, Technology Consultant, nominated by Jenny Farkas/Katie Fillion; has accepted nomination

(first) Katie Swanson

(second) Brendan McNeil

Vote: Carried, by acclamation.

LAST MEETING'S MINUTES AMENDMENTS/APPROVAL

Motion to accept minutes of May 2, 2018:

(first) Sean

(second) Lorna

Motion to accept minutes of Oct. 4, 2017:

(first) Alastair

(second) Sean

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report available at npna.ca/about/docs

- There are several active projects underway, in partnership with the City's Great Neighbourhood department: North Park village beautification, North Park summer festival, Franklin Green Garden enhancement

Motion to accept:

(first) Katie

(second) Alastair

REPORTS

City of Victoria – Mike Hill

For more details see City of Victoria Oct. 2018 North Park Update (available at npna.ca/about/docs)

- Information is available re all-candidates meetings and early voting dates for the municipal election.
- Crystal Pool: Council has directed staff to consult with NPNA and residents re parking options.
- Storage for homeless belongings will now be provided at Our Place.
- Our Neighbourhood Grants program: deadline Oct. 15.
- Local Area Plan: intention to move ahead with North Park/Fernwood LAP.
- Graffiti: there are “paint-outs” on a regular basis in order to minimize graffiti in the neighbourhood. The next one will take place in October.
- Oct. 13 workshop on neighbourhood engagement: invitation to Board members to take part.

President (Acting) – Jenny Farkas

- A City of Victoria/Volunteer Victoria workshop on Oct. 13 will look at best practices in engaging community, as it is challenging to get people out to meetings.
- Reminder that I am acting president until the next Board meeting, when executive positions will be determined.
- Over the past year there has been a focus on streamlining Board systems and processes in order to work smarter, not harder (e.g. online membership sign-up, e-newsletter).
- We are working to encourage the City to give the Board more support regarding land use developments.
- Appreciation on behalf of the Board to Mike Hill for his ongoing support and assistance to NPNA.

Land Use (Acting) – Jenny Farkas

- NPNA is currently seeking a Land Use Chair, following the resignation of the previous Chair part way through the year. If you are interested in land use issues and shaping the future of our urban neighbourhood, please start attending meetings. They are open to anyone.
- There were 3 formal CALUC meetings held in the past few months re proposed developments in North Park: reports are on NPNA website at npna.ca/land-use. The City of Victoria Development Tracker app also provides details about ongoing developments.
- In addition to CALUC meetings, NPNA is working to ensure that the Crystal Pool and Central Park developments best meet the needs of our neighbourhood.
- NPNA also actively encourages the City to do more to ensure below-market rental housing is built.

Membership (Acting) – Jenny Farkas

55 business/organization; 166 resident; 94 non-resident

Communications – Katie Fillion

- Planting has commenced in the Franklin Green Community Native Plant Garden, a project initiated by Jesse. In the spring, there will be a second round of planting as part of the spring celebration.
- The bulletin board in the village (near Castle) has been refreshed and there is space for community notices. Send 8.5 x 11 notices to the NPNA if you’d like to get them up on the board.

- There are 689 followers on NPNA Twitter. Use the #wearenorthpark hashtag and feel free to share interesting things in the neighbourhood.

Arts & Events (Franklin Green Garden – Katie Fillion; Village Beautification – Jenny Farkas)

- The City has provided a generous grant for Franklin Green Garden and a coordinator to keep the garden going.
- A \$5000 grant was received for village beautification murals. The mural on the Toes and Taps building was finished this summer, while the mural on the Castle building is in progress. Banners at either end of the village will be installed later this year.

Inter-Association (Victoria Community Association Network – Allison Ashcroft)

The Sept. 19, 2018 meeting of VCAN focused on governance - from determining the date, time and location of VCAN meetings and establishment of chair, vice-chair and rotating secretary/minute-taker roles - to more profound questions such as the purpose and goals of VCAN.

- A subcommittee has been formed to draft a Terms of Reference (TOR) for VCAN in time for discussion at next month's meeting. Allison is a member of this working group. If you would like to help with the draft TOR, please contact Allison.
- There was discussion and agreement on guest speakers, member representation from Neighbourhood Associations (NAs), method of correspondence with NAs, voting rights, etc.
- More discussion to follow regarding establishing a clear "ask" of the City for better support and capacity building for VCAN and NAs more generally that might include:
 - having dedicated staff at meetings to follow up on requests for information
 - quarterly attendance by the Mayor and/or City Manager
 - funding for training and legal advice, etc. related to the Societies Act and privacy rules related to members' lists, etc.

Minutes from the Sept. 19 VCAN meeting can be found at npna.ca/about/docs

Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) – Penny Bond

This has been a very challenging year for Our Place and the neighbouring businesses and residents as there has been an increase in street activity on the 900 block of Pandora.

- Our Place is working closely with VicPD and bylaw officers to keep activities under control.
- The Supervised Consumption Site (SCS) opened next to Our Place in June and the temporary OD Prevention POD at Our Place has closed down. SCS has about 200 visits daily; some are repeat visits.
- Efforts are being made by both Our Place and SCS to encourage people on the street to come inside and make use of the services being offered.
- SCS offers safe consumption for injection drug users but does not include a space for inhalation drug use. The only inhalant site is at Rock Bay Landing.
- For the past several months, the GNA meeting has expanded its range to include representatives from MLA Carole James' office; BC Housing; and Island Health, who manages the SCS. Portland Hotel Society, which manages the Johnson Street Community at 844 Johnson Street, also has been invited and has sent a representative to one meeting.
- The Next Steps to Employment pilot project, operated by Our Place, opened its teaching space at 1625 Quadra St. in June.

- Our Place’s residential recovery treatment centre in View Royal will open next week.
- Central Baptist Church has been offering evening coffee service outside its building twice weekly. This helps to bridge the gap between when Our Place closes and when night shelters open. They recently also began offering coffee outside the church on Sunday mornings.
- In September, Central Baptist, partnering with Living Edge, began a neighbourhood market initiative on Monday nights, to provide produce for low income people.
- Our Place is hosting a mayoral candidates discussion with a panel of experts, to include candidates from the entire region. It takes place on Tuesday, Oct. 9, at First Met United Church.

Places of Worship Updates – Penny Bond and Alastair McCollum

First Metropolitan United Church

- The transition period at First Met is ongoing, after the retirement of many ministry and senior staff members.
- The two-year contract of the “Intentional Transition Minister” ended in August and the Rev. Ivy Thomas has moved on.
- The search process for a new permanent lead minister was not successful. The search committee will re-convene in the new year.
- The Rev. Shelagh MacKinnon was hired on a nine-month contract to act as Spiritual Care Minister. She offered to fill some lead minister responsibilities as well, as required. She began her contract in September. Rev. MacKinnon is very interested in connections between churches and their communities. She will be meeting with Penny in two weeks.

St. John the Divine Anglican Church

- The church is considering redevelopment of the parking lot/cottage area, and considering possibilities for affordable housing.
- A food bank is offered twice a week.
- A youth shelter will soon be open 3 nights a week.
- There is a weekly art and spirituality group that is open to all.

OLD BUSINESS

Crystal Pool and Central Park Update (Allison Ashcroft and Sean Kahil)

A number of people and ad hoc groups in the neighbourhood continue to push the City for:

- greater transparency around decisions related to the redevelopment of Crystal Pool, and
- more authentic engagement with the community generally, but with North Park neighbours in particular.

Through our advocacy over the last year we have collectively accomplished the following:

A. Parking, traffic and green space preservation:

- Elimination of a proposed surface parking lot of 140 spaces in Central Park and a commitment to no net loss of parkland as a result of the new pool development.
- No use of Pembroke and Queens streets as the on-street parking solution for the new facility.
- Staff are now tasked with looking at the options of underground parking at Central Park and structured parking at Save-On Foods Arena or Royal Athletic Park.

B. More diverse and inclusive recreation

- **Successful re aquatics:** No longer just a cold deep rectangular 50m pool for competitive swimmers and swim clubs. A new aquatics pool has been added with warmer temperatures for

therapeutic swim and play features for recreational swimming, plus a 25m lane pool with warmer water for fitness swimmers. Two hot tubs of varying temperature have been added for families and adults.

- **Unsuccessful:** We have been unsuccessful so far in our advocacy to include a full-sized gymnasium in Victoria's sole recreation facility and this \$70M project. Also unsuccessful has been advocacy for amenities enjoyed by other neighbourhoods with community centres, such as affordable childcare, a community kitchen for micro-economic development and community gathering/community events.

C. Greater transparency and community engagement/involvement

- **Facility Design Process**

- This continues to be a challenge as the City seeks to fast-track the new facility through schematic and detailed design in order to submit funding applications asap and so as to begin construction in spring 2019.
- Links to key documents and decisions related to the pool have very slowly been added to the City's project website after many requests to staff, which were then escalated to mayor and council. However, in the last week, links to all of these critical documents have been erased from the City website again in favour of a new pool web page that is much higher level and doesn't contain any source documents. See old pool page www.victoria.ca/poolfuture; new pool page www.funforlifevictoria.ca

- **Central Park Planning Process**

- We continue to struggle for greater transparency, inclusion and engagement with the pool/facility design; however, we appear to be making some traction with community engagement regarding the impacts on Central Park during and post construction of the pool.
- The Friends of Central Park have spearheaded this advocacy and their lawn signs, petition from park users, and presentations to Council have all been very effective in gaining the attention of the mayor and councillors seeking re-election.
- A motion from the Mayor and Councillor Loveday is being tabled tomorrow at the Committee of the Whole which will shed light on how committed this Council is to engagement and co-design of Central Park with the North Park neighbourhood and park users. This motion requests a commitment of staff time and operating budget in 2019 to conduct this park disruption and park improvement planning with the neighbourhood. It also requests a commitment of capital dollars to ensure temporary relocation of key park assets and timely reinstatement and improvements to the park upon completion of the pool's construction.
- The October 4 motion also asks for
 - 1) an analysis of pros/cons to erecting the facility in the current site rather than building new on top of the park's key assets.
 - 2) A detailed pool budget and a commitment to work with the community to find savings so that important community benefits can be integrated into the project such as underground parking, park improvements, community-centre amenities, a gymnasium, etc.).

The Oct. 4, 2018 motion can be viewed online in the Oct. 4 Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda in New Business section Item I.1 at this link.

<https://pub-victoria.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=23433>

Video proceedings of the Council of the Whole meeting are available at:
<https://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/city/mayor-council-committees/council-committee-meetings.html>

The Motion indicates that the City should follow the same land use processes that any other developer needs to follow in terms of community consultation.

NEW BUSINESS

- Local resident Elizabeth Monk is interested in advocating for a library branch in the Fernwood/North Park area, where there is currently a 'library black hole' (LBH). The combined population of Fernwood, North Park and Hillside/Quadra is 19,700, and not everyone can walk downtown or get to Nellie McClung. If you are interested in joining forces at the community level and brainstorming, please contact ElizabethMonk@shaw.ca.
- Allison – There are 'spatial justice' issues for these neighbourhoods, which don't have equitable community resources compared to more affluent neighbourhoods.

MEETING ADJOURN TIME

Motion to adjourn: Alastair McCollum
9:02 p.m.

MINUTE TAKER

Mel Groves